

REMARKS

This amendment is being filed in conjunction with a Supplemental Appeal Brief to include “computer-implemented” in the recitations of independent method claims 1, 7, 10, and 17 (*See, e.g.*, specification, page 10, lines 5-6).

Applicants acknowledge with gratitude the courtesy extended by Examiner Pham in communicating by telephone with Applicants’ representative Mr. Stephen C. Carlson on March 23, 2005. In response to Examiner Pham’s request, the present amendment to claims 1, 7, 10, and 17 is respectfully submitted for entry, and a Supplemental Appeal Brief is filed herewith as suggested by Examiner Pham. The amendment should be entered, as the language of the amended claims was suggested by the Examiner to Applicants’ representative for the first time on March 23, 2005, and the amendment adds no new matter.

Favorable consideration and entry of this amendment, accordingly, is respectfully requested. If any unresolved issues remain, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney at 703-425-8501 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

DITTHAVONG & CARLSON, P.C.

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Date

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